I AM JOUJI HONDA, 33 YEARS OLD.

I AM A PURE MUSI-CIAN.

Exp.15「Joji」

UHHHH...

MY DREAM-

MY HOBBY, GUITAR.

MY SKILLS, GUITAR.

HEH HEH HEH... EXACTLY...

THE HELL YOU TALKIN' ABOUT, MAN?

"REBORN" OF JIMI HENDRIX?

THIS BODY IS BEING POSSESSED BY JIMI HENDRIX!

IS TO BECOME A LEGEN-DARY ROCK STAR!!

ARGH! NOT THAT!

YEAH, AND WHAT A NICE BODY IT IS.

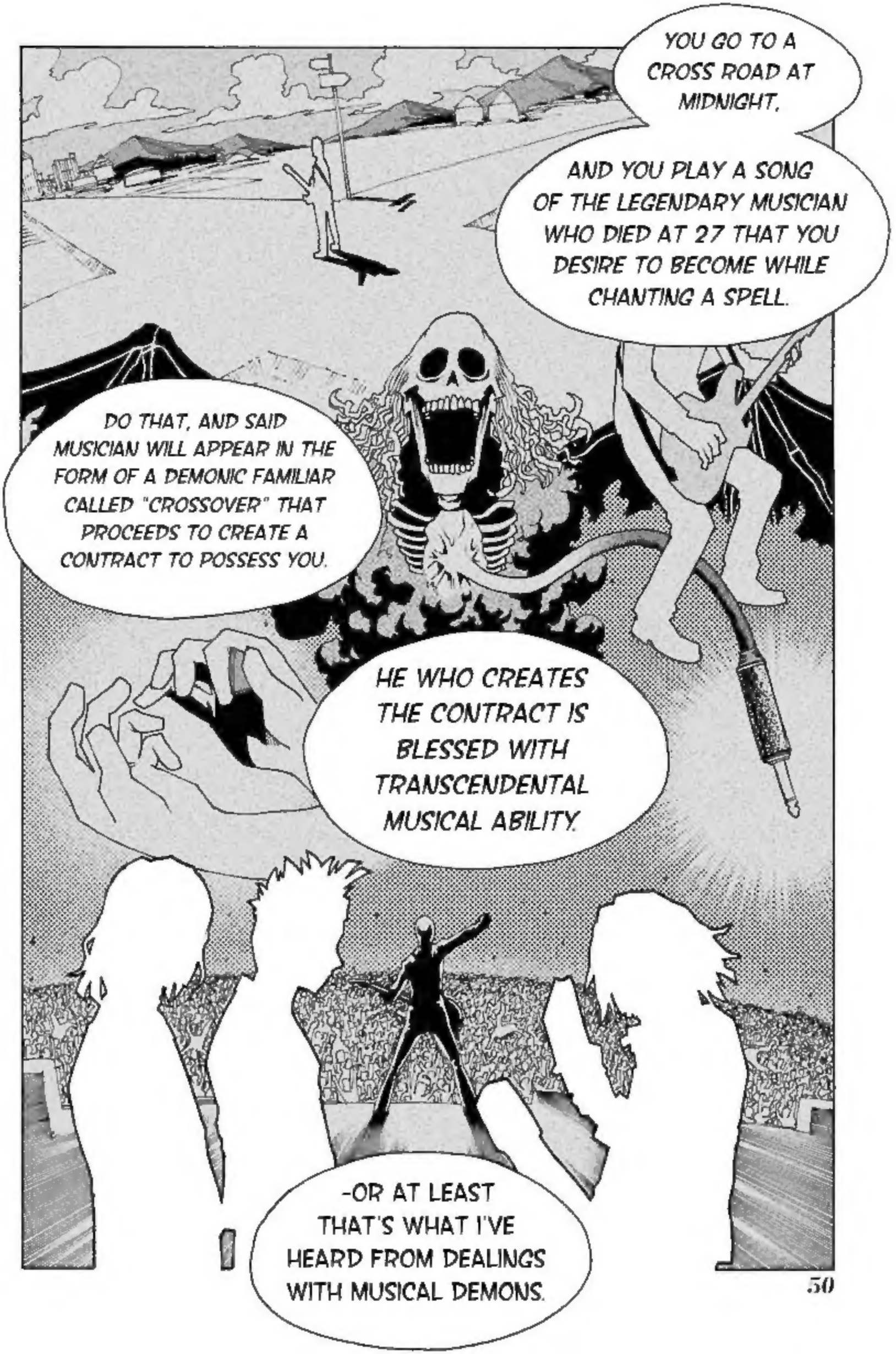
SFX: RUMMAGE

H-HERE, THIS!

CROSS ROAD

DO YOU KNOW THE LEGEND

OF THE *CROSS ROAD RITUAL?*


YOU GO TO A CROSS ROAD AT MIDNIGHT.
AND YOU PLAY A SONG OF THE LEGENDARY MUSICIAN WHO DIED AT 27 THAT YOU DESIRE TO BECOME WHILE CHANTING A SPELL.
DO THAT, AND SAID MUSICIAN WILL APPEAR IN THE FORM OF A DEMONIC FAMILIAR CALLED "CROSSOVER" THAT PROCEEDS TO CREATE A CONTRACT TO POSSESS YOU.
HE WHO CREATES THE CONTRACT IS BLESSED WITH TRANSCENDENTAL MUSICAL ABILITY.
-OR AT LEAST THAT'S WHAT I'VE HEARD FROM DEALINGS WITH MUSICAL DEMONS.

HEHEH, DON'T BELIEVE ME, HUH?

BUT IT'S A GLORIOUSLY REAL STORY.

PFFFFT, WHERE'D YOU HEAR A CRAZY STORY LIKE THAT?

NOW THAT I HAVE JIMI WITH ME,

I'M PLANNIN' TO LAUNCH AN ALL-OUT ATTACK ON THE JAPANESE MUSIC WORLD!

I'VE GOT NO CHOICE, HUH? YOU READY? MY NAME IS-

WHAT'S THAT? YOU WANNA HEAR MY NAME ONE MORE TIME?

N-NO, NOT REALLY-

JOUJI!!

AND SOON, THE WORLD WILL BE *ROARING* MY NAME!

ドキ-ン

SFX: SHINE

OO-
HOUGH!?

SFX: CRACK

YOU THOUGHT YOU WERE JUST GONNA GO BACK TO JAPAN WITHOUT TELLING ME!?

I KNEW YOU'D BE HERE!

NO WAY IN HELL, JOUJI!

WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?! JUST GIMME THE MONEY YOU OWE ME!

SO I HAD TO LET-

ばちーん

SFX: SLAP

BOUGHH!!

SORRY I DIDN'T TELL YA...

I KNOW YOUR LOVE FOR ME EXCEEDS EVEN MY OWN LOVE FOR GUITAR.

OH, HEY MARLEEN.

PHEW. CAN'T BELIEVE SHE CAME ALL THE WAY HERE.

WHAT A CRAZY GROUPIE, AM I RIGHT?

SFX: FWUP

NO MATTER HOW YOU LOOK AT IT, SHE STILL CRUSHED YOUR DEADBEAT ASS.

UGH, THAT'S ALL!?

FUCKIN' CHRIST! YOU GOD DAMN ASSHOLE! MOTHERFUCKER!

UH, WELL... HERE'S WHAT I GOT.

SFX: SNATCH

DON'T EVER COME BACK TO AMERICA, YA WORTHLESS FUCKIN' DRUNK!

SFX: WALKING

DAMN, NOW I'M FLAT BROKE.

I'M NEVER GONNA GET THAT TICKET TO JAPAN...

HEY! THAT'S MY WALLET, SHITHEAD!

BLARGH!

SFX: PUNCH

EH? TH-THIS IS *YOUR* WALLET?

LAST NIGHT I WAS DRINKIN' TOO, SO UH, I CAN'T EXACTLY REMEMBER WHERE I CAME ACROSS IT...

YOU STOLE IT FROM ME WHILE I WAS PASSED OUT LAST NIGHT!

THAT'S SOME HABIT YOU HAVE, YOU GODDAMN THIEF!

SFX: WINK

OH SHUT UP! YOU'RE SO FULL OF SHIT! JUST GIMME MY MONEY!

HEY NOW, WE'RE BOTH BOOZE-LOVING GUITARISTS...

JUST THINK OF IT AS A "**FEE**" FOR THE MIRACLE OF RUNNING INTO ME

☆

WHAT'RE YOU TALKIN' BOUT, KID?

YOU THINK I'M LYIN' ABOUT BEING POSSESSED BY JIMI?

YOU LOOK LIKE AN IDIOT, SO LEMME TELL YOU SOMETHING.

I DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THIS.

SOME REINCARNATION OF HENDRIX YOU ARE,

YA FUCKIN' BRAGGART.

AAGH! MY DEBIT CARD-

SORRY 'BOUT THAT, IT GOT STUCK IN AN ATM AND I KINDA SNAPPED IT TRYING TO FORCE IT OUT...

I DON'T SEE HENDRIX ANYWHERE AROUND HERE.

YOU'RE A FRAUD.

THOSE WHO'VE MADE A CROSS ROAD CONTRACT CAN SEE OTHER PACT-MAKERS' CROSSOVERS.

WH-... *THAT WAY YOU'RE SPEAKING...*

KID, COULD YOU BE...?

TELL ME MAN, CAN YOU SEE ANYTHING BEHIND ME?

LIKE MY BUDDY, FOR INSTANCE?

KID,

YOU'RE BEING POSSESSED BY A LEGENDARY MUSICIAN...?

SFX: GRAB

GUESS I'LL USE YOUR MOVE. YOU BETTER REMEMBER MY NAME!

MY NAME'S NOT "KID"

WE DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THIS.

SEE YA.

SFX: WEEBLE WOBBLE

I'M FORD MUSTANG.

THE MAN WHO'S GONNA ROCK THE WORLD!

HOLD ON!

WAIT A SECOND!

SFX: TURN

HO-

SFX: SKID

A LITTLE BIT AGO, I HEARD SOMEONE SAY

SOME GUY THAT SOUNDED LIKE THE SECOND COMING OF KURT COBAIN WAS PLAYING A SHOW IN FRONT OF THE AIRPORT

THAT-

THAT WAS YOU!?

SFX: GRAB

SOUNDS LIKE A FISHY STORY TO ME.

SFX: WAVE

HELL IF I KNOW

START A BAND WITH ME!

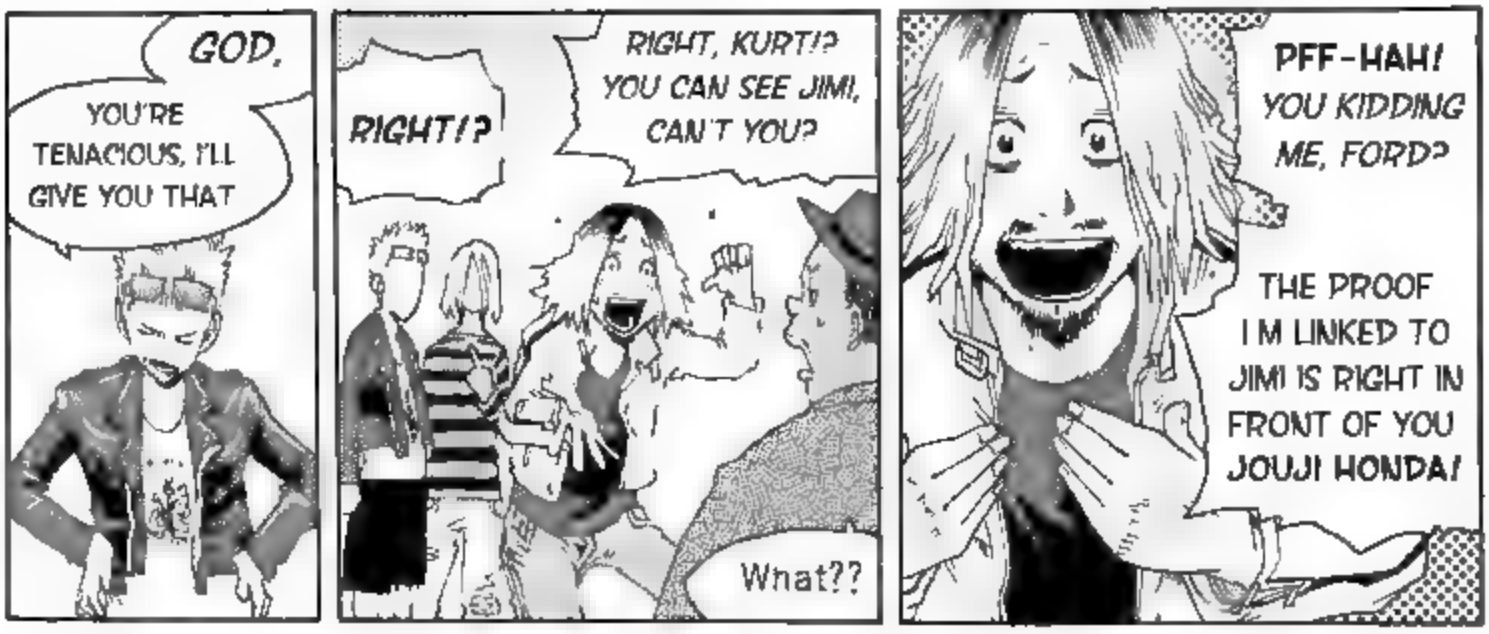
A BAND WITH JIMI AND KURT TOGETHER WOULD BE THE GREATEST BAND EVER!

THINK OF HOW **GLORIOUSLY** LEGENDARY THAT BAND COULD BECOME!

THIS MUST BE FATE, FORD!

THE GODS OF ROCK MUST HAVE BROUGHT US TOGETHER!

YOU SAY THAT,
BUT JIMI NEVER SCOUTED YOU FOR A CONTRACT.


GOD,
YOU'RE TENACIOUS, I'LL GIVE YOU THAT
RIGHT!?
RIGHT, KURT!? YOU CAN SEE JIMI, CAN'T YOU?
What??
PFF-HAH! YOU KIDDING ME, FORD?
THE PROOF I M LINKED TO JIMI IS RIGHT IN FRONT OF YOU JOUJI HONDA!

ALL RIGHT, PLAY ONE SONG FOR ME HERE.

.....

IF JIMI REALLY IS IN YOU,

THEN YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO CAUSE PEOPLE TO GO INTO AN UPROAR OVER THE "SECOND COMING OF HENDRIX", RIGHT~?

SFX GLUP

RUB YOUR EYES, WASH OUT THOSE EARS, AND GET READY TO PRAY-

FAIR ENOUGH

SFX ZIP

SFX WHOOSH

'CUZ THIS IS MY PURPLE HAZE!

LISTEN!

THIS SOUND HAS CHARMED HUGE AUDIENCES AND WHIPPED THEM INTO A WHIRLWIND OF FRENZY!

LISTEN TO MY BLUES!

SFX. TWANG

SHUT UUUUP!

HEY, SOMEBODY CALL SECURITY

OUEGH-

SFX. BURP

'THE HELL IS THAT?

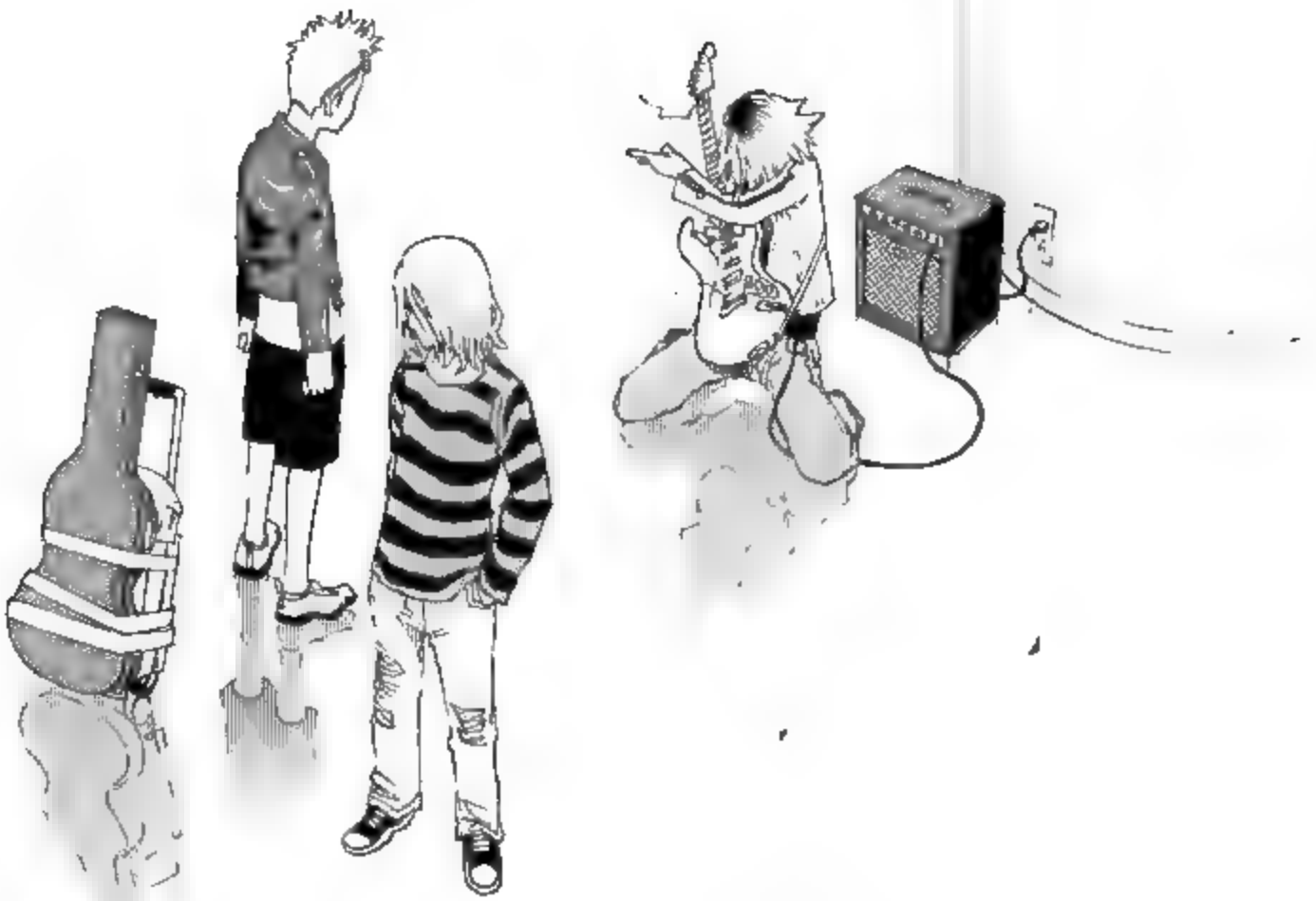
LET'S GET OUTTA HERE.

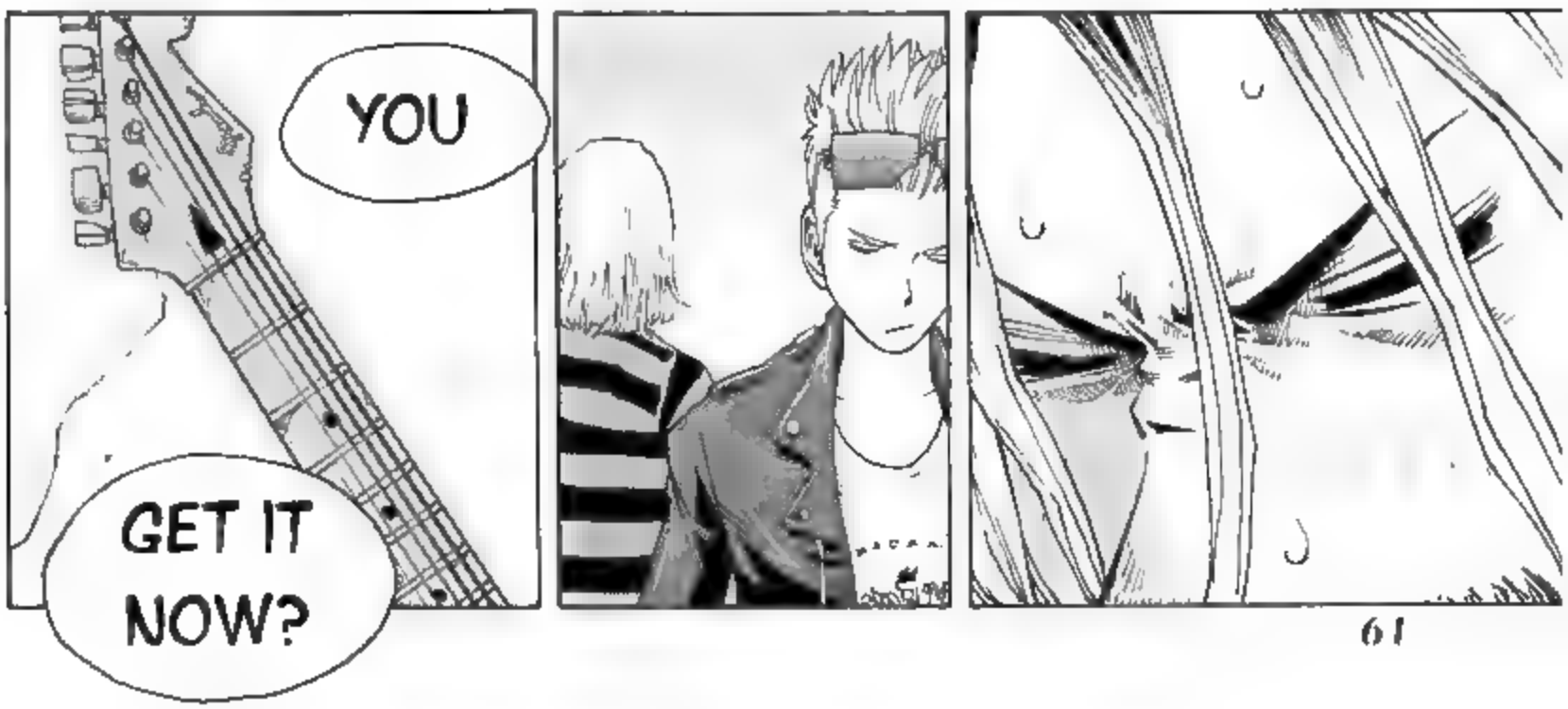
-HUH?

SFX. GRRR

SFX. GRRR

SFX: FADE OUT





YOU'RE NOT POSSESSED BY HENDRIX.

YOU'RE JUST DELUSIONAL.

.....

SO THAT'S IT.

SFX TACK

NO SHIT

WHY?

WHY'D THIS ALL HAVE TO HAPPEN ?

I GUESS I'M...

NOT POSSESSED BY JIMI AFTER ALL...

THAT NIGHT...

MOTO-GUCHI-SAN!

I'M REALLY GRATEFUL FOR YOUR OFFER TO PRODUCE A MAJOR DEBUT ALBUM FOR US,

I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR *GLORIOUS* NEW FACES TO PUSH FOR *MOTO-GUTTI RECORDS*, AND I BELIEVE YOUR *"BODY=BLOW"* WILL DO THE JOB NICELY.

SFX: CLINK

IT'S NOTHING, I'M QUITE *AROUSED* MYSELF.

NOW THEN, *IF I COULD JUST HAVE YOU SIGN A FEW PAPERS...*

SFX: SLIDE

HEY OLD MAN! GET MOTOGUCHI-SAN ANOTHER DOM PERIGNON!

OH MY, SEEMS MY GLASS HAS ABSCONDED

YEAH, YEAH, DUMB-ASS

YES! I LOOK FORWARD TO RECOR-DING TOMOR-ROW!

JUST SOME FORMA-LITIES CONCER-NING RECOR-DING

TEDIOUS THINGS YOU NEEDN'T BOTHER YOURSELF WITH

WHAT EXACTLY IS IN THOSE?

UHH. .

HOW DAZZLING! HOW RADIANT!

OHHH, THE CON-TRACT...!

SFX CL CK!

UHH...

CAN'T REALLY... SEE IT TOO WELL WITH YOUR HAND THERE...

I WANTED TO SEIZE THE CHANCE

I FELT LIKE SUCH A **DAREDEVIL.**

I SIGNED EVERY ONE.

HUH!? WHAT THE HELL WERE YOU THINKING, MAN!?

OH CHRIST, THAT SOUNDS SO SKETCHY

YOU DIDN'T SIGN IT, DID YOU?

SIGN PACHINKO PARLOR LINCOLN

HUH?

.....

GOTTA BE A MIS-PRINT, RIGHT?

LEMME CALL THE NUMBER REAL QUICK.

MOTO-GUTTI RECORDS

ACCORDING TO THE BUSINESS CARD...

...THIS IS THE ADDRESS.

OBU MOTOGUCHI

OTO-GUTTI RECORDS

.....

WHAT IS GOING ON HERE?

WHAT WAS THAT? "BIG-TOE BRUCE LEE"? UHH, VERY WELL SIR WHICH COURSE WOULD YOU LIKE?

UHH, WELL, I'LL TAKE THE 120 MINUTE COURSE

HEY! JUST WHO ARE YOU TALKIN' TO, JOUJI!?

HUH?

ISN'T THIS MOTO-GUTTI RECORDS?

HELLO! THANK YOU FOR CALLING THE COSPLAY ESCORT SERVICE "MISTER BEAN"

WHAT TYPE OF GIRL WOULD YOU LIKE?

SFX: RISE

HEY, MOTOGUCHI-SAN WOULDN'T DISS US LIKE THAT AFTER SEEING WHAT WE CAN DO!

C'MON, NOW.

ME TOO...

YOU KNOW, I HAD A WEIRD FEELING ABOUT THAT GUY.

"CHEVROLET FINANCE"?

!

MUST BE MOTO-GUCHI-SAN!

HELLO, JOUJI SPEA-KING!

HUH?

AFTER THAT, MY BAND BROKE UP DUE TO DISAGREEMENTS BETWEEN THE MEMBERS

I REALIZED SOMEWHERE ALONG THE WAY I HAD BEEN SADDLED WITH A 20 MILLION YEN LOAN.

OH, I'M SURE THE MONEY HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH IT!

YEAH, OBVIOUSLY WHEN YOU SIGNED THAT THING

THE LOAN WAS JUST TOO GIGANTIC

OUR MAJOR DEBUT WENT UP IN SMOKE

SFX GUITAR STRUM

SFX CREAK

SFX CREAK

SFX: SHUT

SFX: OPEN!

すぱっ!

GOOD LUCK WITH YOUR BAND...

I'M SORRY YOU HAVE SUCH AN IDIOT BROTHER, SHIORI...

THE MINI-DISC I GAVE HER...

ZZZ

THE CRIMSON KOALAS' CLUB BUDGET SAVINGS!

END.

SO YOU SNUCK OUT IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT

THEN WOULDN'T THE REST OF THE DEBT HAVE GONE TO YOUR RELATIVES?

AND SO I LEFT WITH NOTHING BUT MY GUITAR AND MY AMP TO GO ON A JOURNEY OF SELF-DISCOVERY

SHIORI EXPERIENCE 4 SFX POW

I ROAMED AROUND JAPAN TRYING WITH ALL MY MIGHT TO FIND MUSICIANS OF MY LEVEL WITH WHOM I COULD FORM A BAND.
JOUJI, YOU SHITHEAD! YOU PUT YOUR HANDS ON MY GIRL!
BLUGH!
GIMME BACK MY MONEY!
DO YOU ALWAYS HAVE TROUBLE WITH WOMEN AND MONEY?

NEVERTHELESS, THE FANS THAT BELIEVED IN MY FUTURE ALWAYS LENT ME AID WHENEVER I LOST FAITH THEY KEPT ME GOING.
YOU DAMN DRUNK!
I'M BEGGING YOU! JUST LEMME STAY FOR ONE DAY-
JUST LEMME IN FOR A FEW HOURS- NO, EVEN 10 MINUTES WOULD BE FINE-
NO WAY YOU'RE GETTING IN HERE!
I'M CALLING THE POLICE!
SO YOU WERE ALWAYS A SCUZZY FREELOADER?

BUT I NEVER THREW AWAY MY DREAM OF BECOMING A ROCK STAR
AND THEN, ON A DAY LONG AFTER I WAS SUPPOSED TO DIE AT 27
. OH HOH
300-
HOW GLO-RIOUS...

SFX HEART BEATING

W-WELL, I CAN'T JUST BUY THIS.

I'LL JUST SANDWICH THIS BETWEEN TWO PROPER BOOKS AND .

OH CRAP, GIRL CASHIER!

HOW TYPICAL.

Y'KNOW, I'D PROBABLY MAKE IT BIG IN AMERICA.

I SHOULD STUDY SOME WESTERN IMPORTS TO GET READY!

I CAN USE THIS AS A REFE-RENCE BOOK.

YEAH.

CROSS ROAD...?

CROSS ROAD

100 -

THAT ATTRACTED MY SPIRIT TO IT

SFX FLIP

SFX FLIP

NEITHER AN AUTHOR NOR PUBLISHER WAS WRITTEN,

BUT THERE WAS SOMETHING ABOUT THAT OLD BOOK

TRANSCEN-DENTAL TECHNIQUE CAN BE HANDED DOWN...?

LEGENDARY MUSICIAN WILL POSSESS..

ONE SONG AT A CROSSING. ?

AN ELECTRIC SHOCK RAN THROUGH MY WHOLE BODY

SPREADING MY WINGS TO BECOME A ROCK STAR AND FRANTICALLY STUDYING ENGLISH

IT WAS ALL BUILDING UP TO THIS MOMENT WHERE I CAME ACROSS THIS BOOK!!

SFX THUMP

5 YEN

UM-

THIS ISN'T ENOUGH!

I'LL BE SURE TO START WITH THE TIME I VISITED THIS USED BOOKSTORE.

WHEN I START WRITING MY AUTOBIO-GRAPHY,

SFX: BAM

I WAGERED MY LIFE ON CROSS ROAD

SFX: TOOT

SFX: CREAK

HUH? WITH NO MONEY!? HOW!?

YOU JUST TOOK OFF WITH NO HESITATION, EVEN THOUGH IT WOULD BE SUCH A GRAND ADVENTURE? HOW DID YOU MAKE IT?

ONCE I CAME TO THAT REALIZATION, I WENT ON A HAZY, SELFLESS JOURNEY TO AMERICA

THE PLACE WHERE MY IDOLIZED JIMI HAD BEEN BORN.

AND THEN...

SFX: FLASH

SFX: RUMBLE

SFX: DRIP

JIMI...

GRANT ME YOUR PRE-SENCE...

SFX: DRIP

SFX: DRIP

GLUG

GLUG

GLUG

SFX: DRIP

SFX: POURING RAIN

I BELIEVED THAT IT WAS GOING TO ALLOW ME TO WASH AWAY MY WHOLE PAST AND TURN THINGS AROUND

I PLAYED PURPLE HAZE WITH ALL MY MIGHT.

HAAH

SFX: FLASH

HAAH

SFX: RAINING

HAAH

HAAH

SFX: RUMBLE

CHIRREGU, CHIRREGU, SONBUGI, DANFEE.

CHIRREGU, CHIRREGU, SONBUGI, DANFEE.

BESTOW THIS TRANSCENDENT GUITAR TECHNIQUE UNTO ME!

SFX: LIGHTNING CRACK

DEMONS!

SFX: FADING RUMBLE

BUT ..

NOTHING CHANGED ..

JANIS JOPLIN.

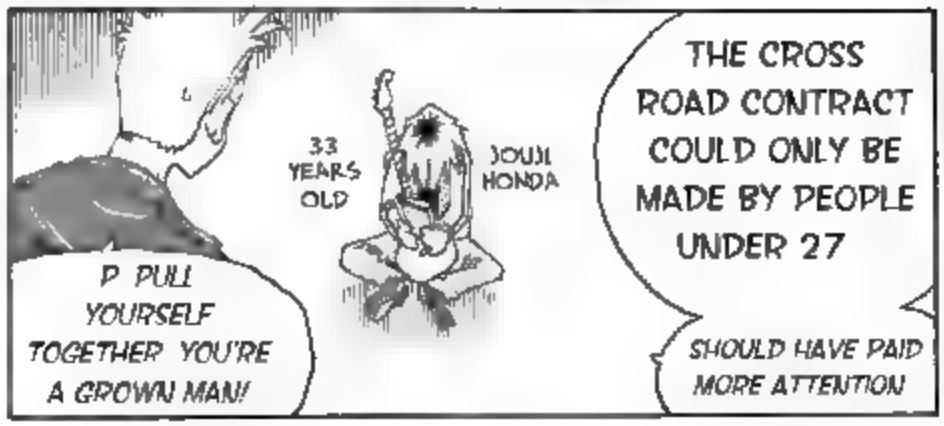
JIM MORRISON,

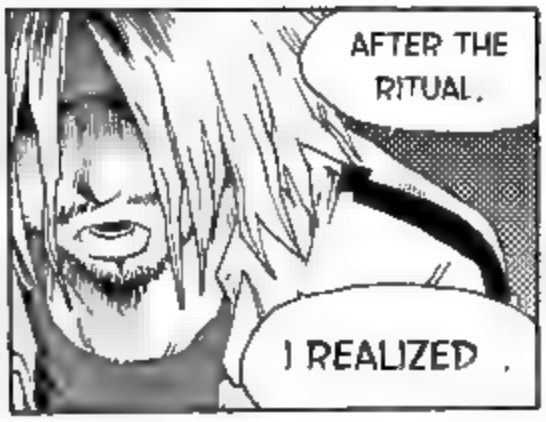
BRIAN JONES,

I ALWAYS THOUGHT I'D DIE AS A LEGEND AT 27 TOO, LIKE ALL MY HEROES.

BECOME A MEMBER OF THE 27 CLUB...

SHIORI EXPERIENCE 4


33 YEARS OLD
JOUJI HONDA
P PULL YOURSELF TOGETHER YOU'RE A GROWN MAN!
THE CROSS ROAD CONTRACT COULD ONLY BE MADE BY PEOPLE UNDER 27
SHOULD HAVE PAID MORE ATTENTION



I CAN'T SEE JIMI OR KURT.

FORD.

IT'S JUST LIKE YOU SAID

I HAVE NO MONEY, NO FAMILY.

NO DREAMS, NO ASPIRATIONS.

NO FUTURE.

FOR THE FIRST TIME,

I UNDERSTAND.

SFX: STAND

I HAVE ABSOLUTELY NOTHING.

BY NOW,

ズバァ

SFX RISING WHOOSH

UWAAAAGHH

URGH

SFX: THUMP

SFX: STOP

I CAN'T EVEN BRING MYSELF TO STYLISHLY SMASH A GUITAR LIKE JIMI AND KURT.

BECAUSE THIS

IS ALL I HAVE LEFT...

LET'S GO, BUDDY

WE'VE GOT WORK TO DO.

PFF. YOU'RE ONLY REAP'IN WHAT YOU SOW

FROM NOW ON, JUST KEEP THAT FORKED TONGUE IN YOUR MOUTH AND TRY LIVING AN HONEST LIFE.

WE GOTTA HURRY UP AND GATHER ENOUGH CASH FOR THAT TICKET TO JAPAN.

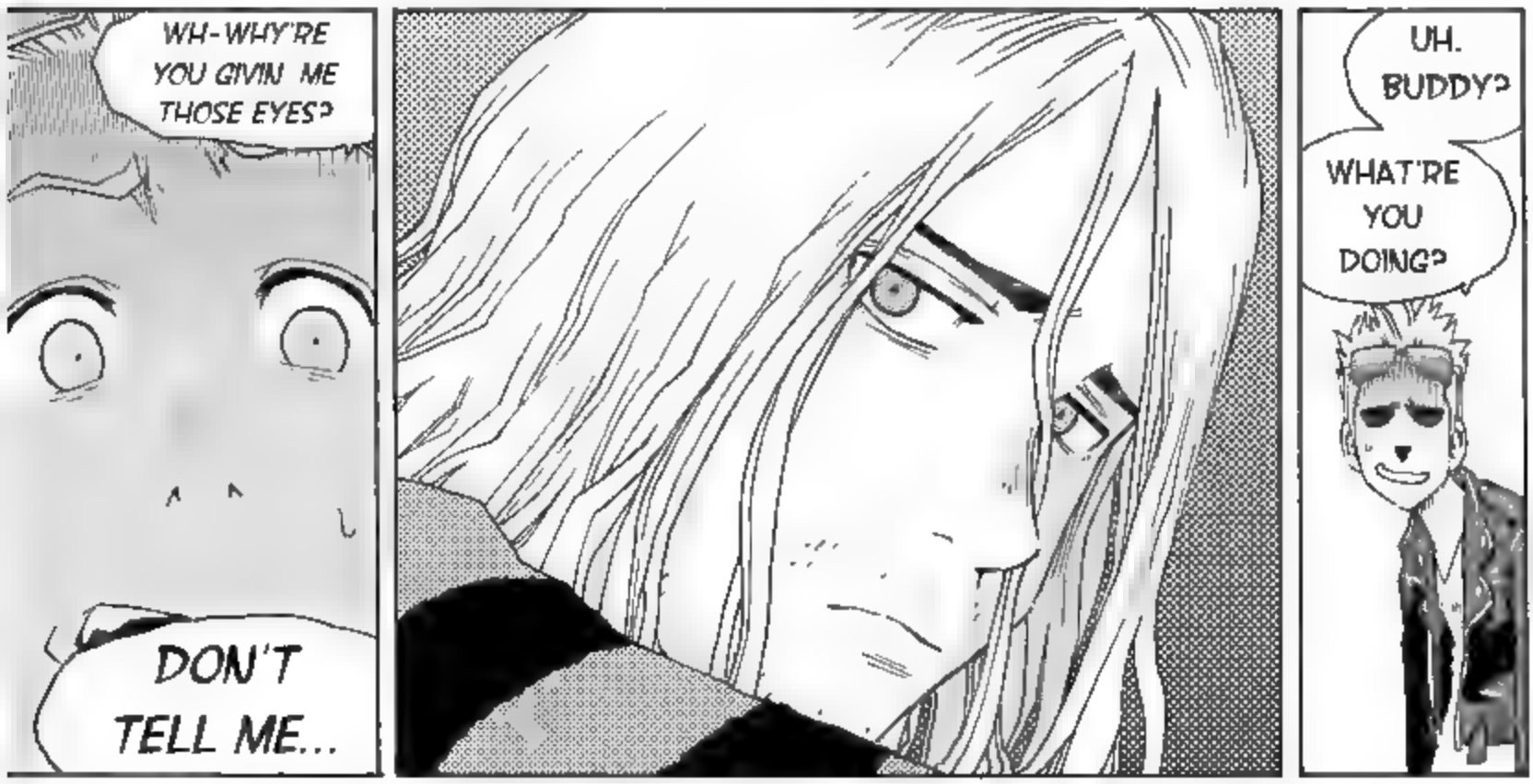
IF I KEEP SMOLDERING LIKE THIS,

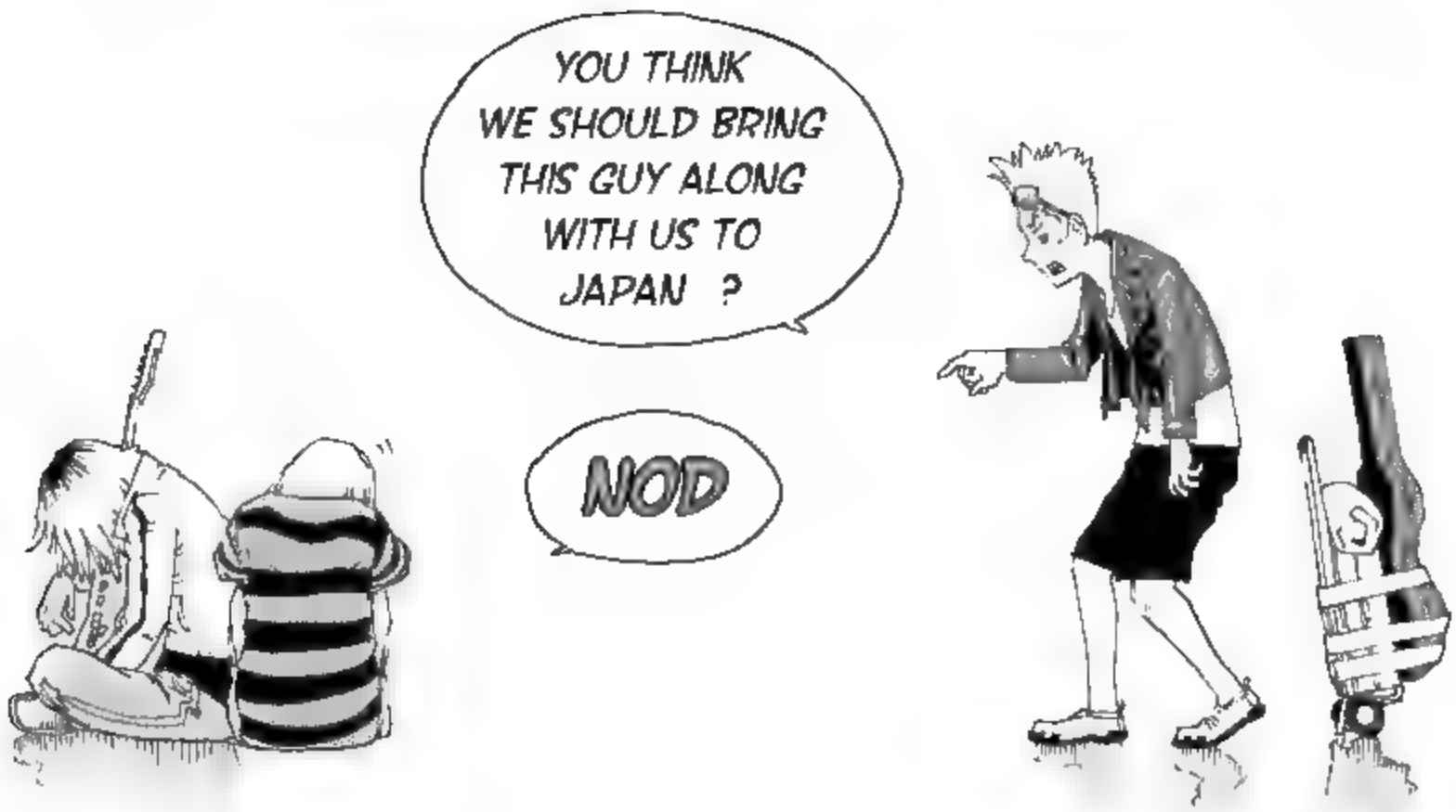
I'M BOUND TO BURN OUT SOON...

YOU'D THINK HE WAS ABOUT TO DIE OR SOMETHIN

PFF. WHAT A CROCK 'A SHIT

SHIORI EXPERIENCE 4





I WAS JUST THINKING...

WHY SHOULD WE BRING THIS BLOWHARD TRASH WITH US!?

G-GIMME A BREAK, BUDDY!

IF I DIE A SECOND TIME,

I WON'T EVER BE ABLE TO PLAY GUITAR AGAIN.

DON'T FALL FOR THIS SWINDLER'S ACT!

THIS DUDE'S JUST TRYING PULL HEARTSTRINGS TO MAKE US PITY HIM!

WH-WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT!?

JESUS CHRIST, MAN!

HOW CAN YOU BE SO GULLIBLE!? JUST LEAVE HIM!

I'D LIKE TO STEP INTO MY HOMELAND...

BEFORE I DIE...

ボソ……

SFX: MUMBLE

OH SHUT UP! DON'T JUST NONCHALANTLY USE NIRVANA'S ALBUM TITLE LIKE THAT!

YEAH, YEAH. JUST...

NEVERMIND ME.

HEY HEY HEY, HOLD ON, HOLD ON...

AND I'M SURE THE GUY YOU WANT WILL BE WELL-VERSED IN THE JAPANESE MUSIC SCENE...

WHAT AM I GONNA DO? I'M SUCH AN IDIOT...

SFX: STING

WH-!

ズキッ

URGH...

HOWEVER... ONCE YOU GO THERE,

I'D IMAGINE IT'D BE PRETTY TOUGH TO FIND A JAPANESE INTERPRETER AND A LOCAL GUIDE.

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SFX: MUMBLE

DON'T LOOK AT ME WITH THOSE EYES!!

SFX: GULP

……

WORDS CANNOT DESCRIBE HOW GREAT IT TASTES...

I KNOW THIS GREAT SAKE PLACE...

SON OF A BITCH! FINE!

I AM JOUJI HONDA, 33 YEARS OLD.

MY DREAM IS TO BECOME A LEGENDARY ROCKSTAR *WITH THESE GUYS!*

NOW WE HAVE TO EARN TRAVEL EXPENSES FOR TWO PEOPLE? I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS!

WELL, LET ME FORMALLY INTRODUCE MYSELF. MY NAME IS-

OH, SHUT UP!

LOOK FORWARD TO ME, SHIORI!

PLEASE SUPPORT THE MANGA!
HTTP://TINY.CC/SHIORI
(CAPITAL S)

CAT
TRANSLATION: MANSLAPPER
SPECIAL THANKS: DEADSCANLATIONS
ONISWAN
TYPESETTER: THREEHEADGUY